the axis of said hoop stent, each of said hoops comprising a plurality of elongate elements, with pairs of said elongate elements meeting one another and forming vertices axially pointing in a direction along the axis of the stent, wherein at least some of said vertices axially abut and are individually connected to oppositely pointed vertices of elongate elements of an adjacent hoop, further including a tubular graft member disposed circumferentially adjacent the tubular stent.

11. (Newly Added) A stent-graft combination according to claim 10, wherein said stent is comprised of a shape memory material.

12. (Newly Added) A stent-graft combination according to claim 10, wherein said shape memory material is nitinol.

13. (Newly Added) A stent-graft combination according to claim 10, wherein said stent is comprised of an elastic material.

14. (Newly Added) A stent-graft combination according to claim 10, wherein said elastic material is stainless steel.

15. (Newly Added) A stent-graft combination according to claim 10, wherein said graft covers diamond shaped openings in said stent.

16. (Newly Added) A stent-graft combination according to claim 10 wherein said graft covers diamond shaped openings in said stent and is attached to said stent by ligature loops.

17. (Newly Added) A stent-graft combination according to claim 16, wherein said ligature loops also form connections between abutting apices of said stent.

18. (Newly Added) A stent-graft combination according to claim 10, wherein the graft is disposed on the outer surface of the stent.

19. (Newly Added) A stent-graft combination according to claim 10, wherein the graft is disposed on the inner surface of the stent.

20. (Newly Added) A stent according to claim 10, wherein said graft member including a drug substance disposed thereon.

21. (Newly Added) A stent according to claim 10, wherein said graft comprises polyester or polytetrafluoroethylene.

22. (Newly Added) A method of reinforcing a body vessel using a tubular sheath disposed between an entry location in a body and an implantation location, said method comprising the steps of:

a. providing stent-graft combination as recited in claim 10;

b. compressing the stent-graft combination into its compressed configuration;

c. inserting the compressed stent-graft combination into the tubular sheath;

d. delivering the compressed stent-graft combination through the tubular sheath to the implantation location; and

e. withdrawing the sheath while holding the stent at the implantation location within the vessel and expanding the stent-graft combination within the implantation location as the sheath is withdrawn by permitting the self-expandable stent-graft combination, as the constraint of the sheath is removed, to return to said expanded configuration;

whereby the stent-graft combination is securely disposed in the implanted state against said body vessel.

23. (Newly Added) A method according to claim 22, wherein the stent of said stent-graft combination is comprised of a shape memory material.

24. (Newly Added) A method according to claim 23, wherein said shape memory material is nitinol.

25. (Newly Added) A method according to claim 22, wherein the stent of said stent-graft combination is comprised of an elastic material.

26. (Newly Added) A method according to claim 25, wherein said elastic material is stainless steel.

27. (Newly Added) A method according to claim 24, wherein step b is performed at a reduced temperature such that the nitinol is not elastic.

28. (Newly Added) Method of implanting a prosthesis at an implementation site in a body lumen comprising providing a stent graft combination as recited in claim 10, said stent-graft combination having first and second configurations the diameter of said stent or prosthesis in said first configuration being smaller than in said second configuration, said method comprising introducing said stent or prosthesis, while in its first configuration into a body lumen in communication with said implantation site but remote therefrom, transporting said stent-graft combination to said implantation site and causing or permitting said stent-graft combination to assume its second configuration, whereby it is retained at said implantation site.